

following characteristics, boiling point up to a maximum of 2000° C, density of 4.47 to 8.0 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, niobium oxide 99.4%, sulphur ppm at 10, Fe ppm at 229, Pb ppm at < 1 and granulometry of [-180 to 45 µm] by thermal spraying.

2. (original) "Niobium-Based Compositions and Coatings, Niobium Oxides and Their Alloys Applied by Thermal Spraying" according to claim 1, characterized by using, more specifically in case of an adherence pre-layer, the agglomerate of 40 Al - 60 Nb with niobium oxide with a granulometry between - 180 to 45 µm.

3. (currently amended) "Niobium-Based Compositions and Coatings, Niobium Oxides and Their Alloys Applied by Thermal Spraying", according to claim[[s]] 1 [[and 2]], characterized by obeying the following parameters for application of the niobium oxide and niobium alloys, oxygen pressure of 2.0 to 4.0 kg/cm<sup>3</sup>, acetylene pressure of 0.5 to 1.0 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>, deposition rate regulation 5-15.

4. (currently amended) "Use as an anticorrosive" as described in ~~the~~ preceding claim[[s]] 1, characterized by using niobium and niobium alloys such as Ni-Nb, Fe-Nb, HNb among others, as an anticorrosive coating.

5. (new) "Niobium-Based Compositions and Coatings, Niobium Oxides and Their Alloys Applied by Thermal Spraying", according to claim 2, characterized by obeying the following parameters for application of the niobium oxide and niobium alloys, oxygen pressure of 2.0 to 4.0 kg/cm<sup>3</sup>, acetylene pressure of 0.5 to 1.0

kg/cm<sup>2</sup>, deposition rate regulation 5-15.

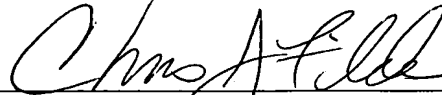
6. (new) "Use as an anticorrosive" as described in claim 2, characterized by using niobium and niobium alloys such as Ni-Nb, Fe-Nb, HNb among others, as an anticorrosive coating.

7. (new) "Use as an anticorrosive" as described claim in 3, characterized by using niobium and niobium alloys such as Ni-Nb, Fe-Nb, HNb among others, as an anticorrosive coating.

Preliminary Amendment--  
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Respectfully submitted,  
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris J. Fildes", written over a horizontal line.

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amend/pct